

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise to oppose Senator Miller's motion and rise to encourage the body to sustain Governor Orr's veto. Like Senator Abboud has just stated, passage of this bill will cause none of the offices to remain open. Now I rise to sustain the Governor's veto even though my name was an original introducer on LB 392. The reason my name was on that bill, as I have stated a number of times, is that we cannot cut back on government at the expense of rural Nebraska. I had an amendment brought to you in good faith to direct the Department of Social Services to keep those offices open which this body voted down. What we now have is a bill that will reinstate money in the budget, yet does not accomplish my goal of keeping the offices open. In my own opinion I think the Department of Social Services could sustain this cut, but they should still keep those offices open. Because of that, because this bill no longer accomplishes what I think, what I intended it to do, I support the Governor's veto and encourage the body to defeat Senator Miller's motion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Warner, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I do not intend to make a lot of remarks. I think everybody understands the issue. The only thing that has happened that is new that I am aware of since the passage of this bill is yesterday we received notice from the Department of Social Services that their deficit request would be increased by another 3.1 million which is in two areas. It is in Medicaid and child welfare and I only bring that information because the deficit from 18...we were dealing with an 18 million in requests. Obviously not all of those will be approved but this does increase the difficulty that we'll have as the session goes along. So I just bring that to you as additional information. Obviously this 100,000 or some other 100,000 doesn't make that much difference. I assume that it needs to be annualized so it would be 200,000 next year and the following year, but perhaps you would want to know that we do have more deficits coming so...over which we have no control because they are entitlement programs.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hall. Senator Hall, please. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I won't prolong the discussion unduly, but I have something I have to say about the Governor. How can she be so right on the